

Since he became president of M&DS in 1997, the company has met or exceeded its financial goals every year while increasing sales from \$1 billion to over \$2 billion. Under Mr. Hansen's leadership, M&DS has received several business awards and distinctions, including the highest technical accreditation ever accorded a single company, SEI SE/SW CMMI Maturity level 5 from the Carnegie Mellon Institute. Computerworld magazine also featured the company as one of the "Top 100 Best Places to Work in IT" for the last two years.

Mr. Hansen directed a broad array of information technology business areas with capabilities in system engineering and integration, architectural definition, and large-scale data and information software systems design, development and implementation. Additionally, major elements of the company are engaged in system operations, maintenance and enhancement at customer facilities.

Mr. Hansen's business philosophy is driven by his unwavering commitment to the highest ethical standards. He strongly believes that if you genuinely care about your customers and help them succeed, you succeed. To maintain competitiveness, Mr. Hansen believes a company must attract and retain the best employees and create an environment that allows them to flourish.

Mr. Hansen began his career in 1968 with GE Aerospace (GEA) in Valley Forge, Pennsylvania. In 1974, he became program manager supporting the Landsat satellite system. In 1977, he joined Management & Data Systems where he held a number of increasingly responsible engineering and program management positions. In 1988, Mr. Hansen took on the assignment of managing GEA's Aerospace Information Technology component. In 1989, he transferred to Syracuse, New York as General Manager of Engineering, Ocean and Radar Systems, and in 1992 he assumed the same position at Government Electronic Systems in Moorestown, New Jersey.

In January 1994, Mr. Hansen returned to M&DS as vice president, Requirements Management Systems, and in March 1995 assumed the role of executive vice president of M&DS. Mr. Hansen was then named president of Management & Data Systems in March 1997.

With his career at M&DS near its end, Mr. Hansen said that if he could leave just one thing behind, it would be M&DS Guiding Principles or what he calls "the right stuff"—his recipe for a world-class business. He urged employees to read, understand and personalize them, and he encouraged them to make certain that decisions are made in the best interest of the country, the customer and the corporation.

Mr. Speaker, fellow colleagues, please join me in paying tribute to the exemplary accomplishments of Mr. Marcus C. Hansen, for his achievements as a business leader and patriot who exemplifies the spirit that has made this country great. I wish Marc continued success as he utilizes his energies and talents in new and exciting ways. I wish Marc and his wife Cheryl much happiness in the future.

TRIBUTE TO MR. VINCENT L. BARILE, DEPUTY UNDER SECRETARY FOR MEMORIAL AFFAIRS

HON. CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 25, 2003

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Mr. Vincent L. Barile, Deputy Under Secretary for Memorial Affairs, who retired after 28 years of service at the Department of Veterans Affairs, VA.

Vince began his career with VA in 1975 as a veterans' benefits counselor. In 1976, he transferred to the Budget Service in VA's central office. From 1979 to 1984, he served as a budget analyst in the Veterans Health Administration, where he rose to supervisor of budget formulation and operations.

In 1984, Vince joined the National Cemetery Administration, NCA, as the director of budget and planning. In this position he was responsible for the formulation and implementation of the annual budget, all planning activities, and other activities including emergency preparedness, energy conservation and safety programs. The Secretary of Veterans Affairs promoted Vince to Deputy Under Secretary for Management for NCA in 1990.

In 2002, Vince was appointed Deputy Under Secretary for Memorial Affairs. In this capacity, Vince oversaw budget and planning, information systems, communications, human resources, administration, contracting, memorial programs, state cemetery grants, and operations and construction for 120 national cemeteries. Vince testified before the Veterans' Affairs Committee frequently on memorial affairs issues, where he brought extensive knowledge and experience to the witness table.

When asked what they will remember most about Vince Barile, employees he supervised say that he was a mentor and a teacher. He often conducted impromptu sessions in the hallways, always credited his employees for their work, and helped them find opportunities to learn. As evidence of the high regard he had for his employees, Vince summed up his remarks at his farewell party by saying that his Exceptional Service Award was not his award, but one in recognition of all his employees. He noted that if his career was considered successful, it was because of the people who worked for and with him. He then applauded his staff.

With Vince's retirement, VA is losing vast institutional knowledge and a real friend to America's veterans. Thank you, Vince, for your 28 years of dedicated service to the Department of Veterans Affairs and the Nation.

HONORING THE MEN AND WOMEN OF THE U.S. ARMED FORCES

HON. ANDER CRENSHAW

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 25, 2003

Mr. CRENSHAW. Mr. Speaker, the United States of America is the proud home to the best trained, most versatile, and most committed voluntary military force in the world.

The men and women of our armed forces defend our lives, our freedom, and our loved

ones at a moment's notice, without question. This incredible commitment provides an incalculable benefit to the citizens of the United States of America; for this, I rise today on behalf of the Fourth Congressional District of Florida to say thank you.

There is a tremendous sense of patriotism among those in the military. These men and women answer a call to duty that often means the difference between life and death. The men and women of our armed forces are the first sent to confront the unknown; they face danger until the last threat is gone.

This unwavering commitment to defending our freedom extends beyond asking our soldiers, sailors, airmen, and marines for their duty; this commitment includes asking their parents, their spouses, and their children to stay strong while they are fighting for freedom on a foreign shore.

To the men and women of our Armed Forces, thank you. Your sacrifice is priceless. Your dedication is greatly appreciated.

HONORING SHERIFF C.A. "PELK" RICHARDS

HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 25, 2003

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Sheriff C.A. "Pelk" Richards for his commitment and dedication to the Mariposa County Law Enforcement. On Friday, May 2nd his retirement will be celebrated at Sheriff C.A. "Pelk" Richards' Retirement Dinner in Mariposa, California.

Pelk Richards has been an active member of the community throughout his life. He is a Mariposa native who was born in San Diego and raised in Mariposa County. Pelk graduated from Mariposa County High School and married his high school sweetheart, Dorothy. In his younger years, he was a steer and team roper while taking part in the Triangle Roping Club and the California Cowboys Association.

On July 1, 1972 Mr. Richards joined the Mariposa County Sheriff's Office as a Deputy Sheriff/Jailer. Pelk was very progressive and worked his way up the rank structure at the Sheriff's Office. He was promoted to Sergeant in 1977 while receiving the Outstanding Sergeant Award, and again promoted to Commander in 1985 and later moved up to Under-sheriff in 1990. Pelk was sworn in as Mariposa's 21st Sheriff in January of 1999.

During his career, Sheriff Richards solved all homicides assigned to him and was deemed to be a Court expert in Narcotics. In 1990, he was awarded the "J. Edgar Hoover" Law Enforcement Officer of the Year Award. Pelk was also responsible for writing 417(b) California Penal Code-Protecting Peace Officers Legislation. Immediately after taking office, Sheriff Richards gathered his command staff and created a Mission, Vision, and Value Statement which held to the mission "to control, prevent, and reduce crimes in all our communities, while being courteous, professional, and respectful." He also developed a Terrorism Response Plan for Mariposa County in response to the terrorist attacks of September 11th.

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to honor Sheriff C.A. "Pelk" Richards for his dedication to